## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims:

- 1. (Currently amended) An 802.1X protocol-based multicasting control method, comprising the following steps:
- Step 1: performing 802.1X authentication for a subscriber and storing authenticated subscriber information;
- Step [[1]] 2: intercepting [[the]] a request message for joining in a multicasting group sent [[by an]] from the authenticated subscriber;
- Step [[2]] <u>a</u>: obtaining [[the]] <u>a</u> port <u>number</u>, [[and]] <u>a</u> MAC address <u>and a multicasting IP</u> <u>address</u> of the subscriber from the <u>request</u> intercepted message;
- Step [[3]] 4: searching corresponding subscriber account information [[from]] in the 802.1X authenticated [[data]] subscriber information according to said port number and MAC address;
- Step [[4]] 5: authenticating the subscriber's account number <u>information</u> and <u>the</u> multicasting IP address, and then adding the subscriber to the multicasting group if the authentication is passed successfully; otherwise <u>rejecting</u> the subscriber's request <u>is rejected</u>.
- 2. (Currently amended) [[An]] <u>The</u> 802.1X protocol-based multicasting control method according to claim 1, <u>further comprising</u>: <u>wherein in step 5</u>, [[the]] <u>an</u> authentication server at 802.1X authentication end <u>being utilized</u> <u>is used</u> to authenticate the subscriber's account number <u>information</u> and <u>the</u> multicasting IP address.

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- 3. (Currently amended) [[An]] <u>The</u> 802.1X protocol-based multicasting control method according to claim [[2]] <u>1</u>, wherein <u>in step 5</u>, the authentications of <u>the</u> subscriber's account number and <u>the</u> multicasting IP address are implemented through verifying whether the multicasting IP address is authorized to accept receive the subscriber with said account number information.
- 4. (Currently amended) [[An]] The 802.1X protocol-based multicasting control method according to claim 1, wherein if said 802.1X <u>authentication</u> is based on port <u>authentication</u>, when a subscriber attached to said port makes a request for joining in a multicasting group, the subscriber's MAC address is searched for first; if said MAC address is found, the subscriber's account number <u>information</u> is searched for according to said MAC address and <u>said</u> port number;

if said 802.1X protocol authentication is based on MAC authentication, when a subscriber attached to said port makes a request for joining in a multicasting group, the subscriber's account number information is searched for directly according to the subscriber's MAC address and the port number.

5. (Currently amended) [[An]] <u>The</u> 802.1X protocol-based multicasting control method according to claim 1, 2, 3 or 4, wherein the subscriber joins in the multicasting group through IGMP protocol.